Working of NHPC

†1432. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) was set up in 1975;

(b) if not, the facts in this reaged and whether it is also a fact that projects with power generation capacity of 4145 mega watts are functioning under the said institution, at present;

(c) if not, the actual position in this regard;

(d) whether a target has been set to generate 25,000 MW of more power in this sector during the next 20 years; and

(e) if not, the facts in this regard and whether the total power generation capacity in this sector in the country is more than 1,45,000 MW?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC) was set up in 1975.

(b) and (c) At present, 11 hydro projects with total installed capacity of 3137.20 MW are in operation under NHPC. In addition, 2 hydro projects of total installed capacity of 1520 MW are in operation under Narmada Hydro Development Corporation (NHDC), which is a Joint Venture between NHPC and Madhya Pradesh.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) A capacity of 78,577 MW has been proposed to be added during the 11th Plan period, which includes a hydro capacity addition of 16,553 MW. However, the reassessment studies of the hydroelectric potential of the country, completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, have placed the hydro potential at 1,48,701 MW in terms of installed capacity. The Government of India is committed to the speedy development of hydro power in the country. However, the development of the entire potential will depend on the techno-economic viability of the projects and the policies of the respective host State Governments to harness this potential.

Replacement of old electricity poles and wires

†1433. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poles and wires used in conducting electricity in the country are about twenty five years old;

(b) whether any survey has been done about the number of poles in decrepit condition; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and what efforts are being made for their replacement?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Distribution of electricity falls within the purview of licensees in various States.

The Central Government is providing financial assistance to the power utilities under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for strengthening and improvement of sub-transmission and distribution (ST&D) system in their areas.

Setting up of mega thermal plant in Orissa

1434. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mega thermal plant with 2000 MW, is proposed to be set up in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this would help to generate additional power in the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) NTPC Ltd. proposes to take up Darlipalli Integrated Thermal Power Project with a capacity of 3200 MW (4x800 MW) in Sundargarh district of Orissa for benefits in the 12th Plan period. Site specific studies for the project are in progress and Feasibility Report is under preparation. In addition, NTPC Ltd. has also identifed Derang Thermal Power Project (2400 MW) in Angul district and Gajmara Thermal Power Project (to be developed in Joint Venture with Coal India Limited) with a capacity of 3200 MW in Dhenkanal district in the State of Orissa. Government of Orissa has been requested for in-principle availability of land/water for these two projects.

Central Electricity Authority has also identified Bedabahal, District Sundergarh as a proposed site for an Ultra Mega Power Project (4000 MW) in Orissa to be implemented through tariff based competitive bidding. In addition, Government has identified five coal blocks i.e. Ghogharpali, Dip side of Ghogarpali, Bankhui, Sakhigopal B and Alaknanda in Orissa for setting up of three mega power plants on tariff based competitive bidding. On completion, all the above projects would provide sufficient power generation capacity in the State of Orissa.

Target under RGGVY

†1435. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the rural electrification programme under the Rajiv Gandhi Electrification Mission in many States is far behind its fixed target; and

(b) if so, the names of such States and the steps being taken to further extend the target of rural electrification in those States?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The progress of the scheme is as per the targets set during 2005-06 and 2006-07. Some states like Jharkhand, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland & Maharashtra submitted their Detailed Project Reports

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.